

MEMO

From

RICHARD M. LEDERER, JR.

Dear Eric -

Thanks for the return of the Journal - and also for the tear sheets which I'll return when Carol has a chance to see them. Er writes a grand story and they were good fun reading.

Rick did some homework + here's a tabulation of all the Colonial currency - I think the ones you're interested in are the last item. If you want more dope, just yell.
Regards Dick

RICHARD M. LEDERER, JR.

270 MARTINE AVENUE

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y.

ROCKWELL 1-0311
MURRAY HILL 5-8448

November 25, 1959

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Eric,

I'm returning the tear sheets which Carol enjoyed
as much as I did.

Also enclosed are some photostats of the New York
Indented Bills and the Tai Pak picture you wanted.

There is also a picture which I mentioned to you was
not in the scrap book as I didn't consider it worth
keeping - it is taken from the second deck of the Tai Pak
past the light bulbs of their sign and shows you debarking
from your sampan. Not a good picture, but fun.

Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dick". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "D" and a trailing flourish.

RML Jr/ec
Encls.

<u>Date of Issue</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Signed By</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
<u>Continental Currency</u>			
May 20, 1777 (Phila.)	# 8	Smith Claypool	Printed by Hall & Sellers
" " "	# 8	R. Johnson	" " "
April 11, 1778 (Yorktown)	# 40	G. Conner R. Davis	" " "
<u>Pennsylvania</u>			
April 3, 1772	2 shillings	John Sellers John Morton Chas. Humphreys	Morton was signer of I.
Oct. 1, 1773	5 "	S. Carmick G. Emley, Jr. Saml. Fisher	Hall & Sellers
" "	10 "	Isaac Wharton R. Willing Joseph Allen	" "
<u>New Jersey</u>			
March 25, 1776	1 shilling	John Hart Jona. Deare J. Stevens, Jr.	Hart was a signer of I
" "	6 shillings	John Hart Robt. Smith J. Stevens, Jr.	" " "
" "	18 pence	Robt. Smith Jona. Deare John Smith	Printed in Burlington, N.J. by Isaac Collins
" "	" "	" "	" "
June 9, 1780	# 5	D. Brearley P. Dickinson	Printed by Hall & Sellers Endorsed in rev. by Jas. Borden
" "	# 20	"	" " "
<u>Massachusetts Bay</u>			
May 5, 1780	# 20	M. Dawes J. Wales	Printed by Hall & Sellers Endorsed by Peter Boyer
<u>New York</u>			
Sept. 2, 1775	# 2	A. L. Bleecker	Printed by John Holt
<u>Delaware</u>			
Jan. 1, 1776	(Half crown) 2 shillings 6 pence	McKinley plus 2	Printed by James Adams
<u>Connecticut</u>			
Oct. 11, 1777	5 pence	C. Phelps	On reverse is handwritten "Registered J. Jeffry"
<u>North Carolina</u>			
December, 1771	10 shillings	John Harvey R. Caswell plus 2	
April 2, 1776	1/4 of a Dollar	Dummer Dummer Haywood Wm. Williams	By Authority of Congress at Halifax A holder has signed, "Wm. Williams"
" "	# 8		

(over)

South Carolina

March 6, 1776

15 Pounds

Jacob Matte
John Parker
J. Morry, Jr.

Endorsed by Macpherson,
Tidgman, etc.

Georgia

May 4, 1778

\$20

W. Few
W. Maxwell
A. Wade plus 2

Printed by W. Lancaster at Savannah

Virginia

March 1, 1781

#250.

R. Webb
J. Addams

New York

4 Indented Bills, varying denominations, issued by the Colony on May 31, 1709 to finance expedition to Louisbourg. N.Y. was afraid that Mass. would get there first & make a claim. Bills are signed by Robert Walters, Robert Lutting and James De Peyster. All later became Mayors of N.Y.C. These bills are part of first issue in N.Y. Colony. I've seen several indiv. bills listed by Goodspeeds at fancy prices.

All of the continental & colonial are personally signed also.

December 4, 1959

Mr. Richard M. Lederer, Jr.
270 Martine Avenue
White Plains, New York

Dear Dick,

Thank you, very much, for the picture of Tai Pak, where we ate all those lovely dead fish. Andy has already put it in his scrapbook and Linda will get a charge out of it when she comes home from college.

I am very appreciative of the list of the Colonial currency in the family collection. You have no idea how sincere I am in my study of this field and to prove it I am enclosing a reprint of one of the articles which I wrote on the counterfeiting of Continental currency. An additional article on this subject is going to be published, in England, shortly. I particularly call you or your brother's-in-law attention to the items of Continental currency which are in your collection as they may well be these fascinating counterfeits.

I noticed that the 5 and 10 shilling New York notes of May 31, 1709 are in duplicate. One pair looks as though it is joined and the other separated, although I cannot be sure. What I was wondering is if some arrangement could be made for you to part with a pair of these notes as it would give me a great deal of pleasure to own them. They are much rarer than many other pieces of Colonial money although there are a substantial number of examples extant. I would, of course, be glad to buy a pair but there are other alternatives that might give you or your brother-in-law more pleasure. I have, for example, an even rarer note of Massachusetts Bay, engraved by Paul Revere, and another one engraved by him which is not as rare. I have other interesting pieces of Colonial paper money but a good number of these would have to be exchanged for the New York notes in any reasonable swap.

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December 7, 1959

Mr. Richard M. Lederer, Jr.

I also have a Seventeenth Century view of early New York on one of the Dutch maps of the area. This is the view of Manhattan which is very often reproduced. I have no idea of what value it is but I know it is much sought after.

Any suggestions you make will be of great interest to me and I hope that something can be worked out along these lines.

We also have some early New York silver spoons of the Eighteenth Century and a few early Nineteenth Century.

Evelyn joins me in sending you and yours our very best.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPW/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

May 7, 1979

Mr. Richard M. Lederer
15 Horseguard Lane
Scarsdale, NY 10583

Dear Dick:

I read much of the Westchester name origins and I can realize how much work you put into it. The bibliography is staggering. You had fun I am sure but you can be proud of your accomplishment.

I thank you for sending us the book. My New York family are going to put it on required reading.

Ev and I were delighted to see you and Carol and hope you never have such a limited choice of food again.

Best from both of us to both of you.

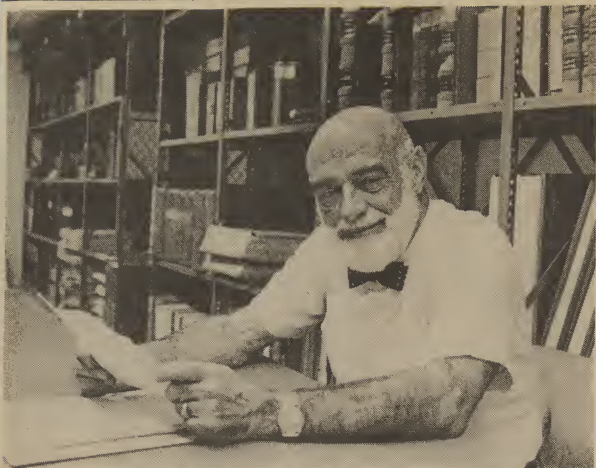
Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

jah

Scarsdale Inquirer 7/19/79



LOCAL HISTORIAN RICHARD LEDERER in the vault at Village Hall where old documents are stored. Arey photo.

'Curiosity' Led Historian Into Village Hall Vault

By GORDON M. GOLDSTEIN

"I think that a knowledge, and a respect, and an affection for the past—one's heritage," says 63-year-old Richard Lederer Jr. while stroking his thick white beard, "will produce a greater respect for what we have today, and what we do today."

Lederer pauses, carefully choosing his words while he reclines in a chair behind his cluttered desk at the White Plains office of his former real estate firm, Reredguard Associates. "To know why we did what we did yesterday," he explains in a deep, chesty voice, "is a reason for examining what we do today."

Lederer admits that he has always had a "great interest in history" and an "active interest" in the history of Scarsdale for 30 years, ever since he moved into 15 Horseguard Lane in Fox Meadow. "Anybody who has any curiosity at all, and moves onto a street with a name like that, has to find out why it got its name." That curiosity recently led him to make an exhaustive examination of early Scarsdale documents.

Pointing to an envelope full of neatly typed and reproduced papers at an unfilled corner of his desk, Lederer describes the contents as "all from the vault in the Village Hall on the ground floor. The Town Treasurer's records are there, and the Town Clerk's records are there. These documents are arranged by decade...from before 1810 to 1860."

Because Lederer "wanted to know what was there...for myself," he spent several hours each day for three weeks this spring searching and digging through the vault. "To the best of my knowledge the documents have always been there. Whenever there was an election the results were filed there, in the town records." He added that even though some of the documents are more than 170 years old, "They are for the most part in excellent condition."

The documents include records of the signing of indentures binding children to be servants and apprentices to local citizens until the age of 21. For example, Lederer pointed to an 1803 record telling how four children ranging in age from 4 to 16 were split up and indentured to different families to learn various trades. One of them, William Cherry, age 7 was to learn the trade of teacher from one Ambros Horton of New Rochelle. At the completion of his 14-year term, Will im was to be issued "...a suit of new clothes, a new hat of four dollars price, and also a new Bible." Not much of a bargain after 14 years of service!

Equal Suffrage Opposed

One of the documents from the vault's files includes the Scarsdale vote in a state-wide referendum "On the question of equal suffrage for Blacks." The vote, which took place sometime in the 1840's, records that there were three people in favor of equal voting rights, and 19 opposed.

Some of the material found in the Village "archives" pertains to financial matters. One reads "...A bill of sale of all personal property from William H. Fish to Catherine B. Fish. \$1000. 25 April 1850." Listed was personal property ranging from a hay wagon and farm implements to household goods and silverware.

Lederer is quick to point out the finer points of the documents he uncovered, particularly the language of the Indenture contracts. "The Biblical music to the wordage in here...it's beautiful, just lovely, lyrical," he exclaims, waving the papers of a 175-year old Indenture contract.

In between long drafts from a tall glass of buttermilk, a remedy adopted many years ago for an ulcer, Lederer describes the motivation for his research into the history of Scarsdale. "I've seen local histories from other communities. Bedford has put out seven volumes, Eastchester has put out four volumes of its re-

cords, and they're important." He points to a bookcase overstuffed with materials on the history of Westchester county. "I was wondering if Scarsdale should do the same...Material should be there for historians to go back to."

Lederer is also interested in compiling records of Scarsdale's history prior to its official designation as a town. Until about 1780, Scarsdale was a manor, probably without official records.

Rubbing the deep creases under his sparkling blue eyes, Lederer reaches over and pulls out a copy of his book, "The Place-Names of Westchester County," published last November. "It won't be a runaway bestseller, but I am doing a lot of speaking about it," the author said.

His current and most extensive work, which is now in progress will be a glossary of words used in the Colonial period which are now obsolete or have changed meanings.

He points to two file boxes filled with hundreds of index cards, each a separate word. "I suppose I am appreciative of details and exactness. I used to build miniature furniture, with a scale of one foot to one inch."

A graduate of Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, and Yale University, where he studied economics, Lederer is very active in the Scarsdale Adult School, and Westchester's College Careers Program, a "motivational program that mainly tries to encourage ghetto kids to seek higher education." "What we try to do," he says "is help these kids with the future."

But, it is the past that most fascinates Richard Lederer. Even his office is wall papered with reproductions of an 18th century Philadelphia newspaper from the colonial period.

"Look here," he points with excitement. "On this wallpaper we can find fascinating words. For example, look at this..."

RICHARD M. LEDERER, JR.

270 MARTINE AVENUE

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.

(914) 761-6464

(212) 829-4734

MAILING ADDRESS

BOX 270

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y. 10602

April 25, 1980

Mr. Eric Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63110

Dear Eric:

Saw Henry last evening who told me of your recent troubles, but ~~that~~ all is well now. Good.

My latest project is Words used in the colonial period which are today obscure. The Royal Proclamation of 1704 established the sterling value of a list of currencies. I can find all of them but one -- Cross dollars. What were they?

Love to Evelyn,

RMLjr/ttm

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'RML', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

May 1, 1980

Mr. Richard Lederer, Jr.
270 Martine Avenue, Box 270
White Plains, NY 10602

Dear Dick:

I am pleased to answer your inquiry as to what a Cross dollar is. It is an early Spanish American dollar which has a cut perimeter. The Cross refers to the design and I am enclosing a photocopy of an article which refers to the name.

If 1787 is ~~not~~ the Colonial period for which you are writing up words, I have developed the ~~meaning of~~ ~~one which~~ is Bungtown. This became the nickname of several cities in the United States and also became a derisive name of a fictitious city. I wrote a whole article on the derivation of the word and will ~~send~~ you the data if it fits into your new opus.

Thank you for the supplement to the Westchester County book. It must be very satisfying to have so many people read it and make suggestions.

Evelyn joins me in sending you our kind regards.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

Encl.

Richard Kederer.

Dear Eric -

Thanks for the dope
on the Cross Dollar.

I knew I could count
on you.

1783 is my cut-off
date, but the
Bingtown story sounds
like something the
American Name Society
could use, if they ever
get themselves straightened
out... Kiss Evelyn

Dick